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April 6th, 2010

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: In the Matter of Preserving the Open Internet (GN Docket No. 09-191) and Broadband Industry Practices (WC Docket No. 07-52)

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

Like many Native Americans across our country, I am delighted with the ambitious National Broadband Plan and applaud the attention given to ensuring broadband needs are met on Tribal lands. The creation of a Tribal Broadband Fund will be tantamount to increasing adoption among American Indian communities, and I am grateful for the FCC's acknowledgement of the vital role Tribal governments play in our economy.

Like many underserved populations across the country, Tribal communities face daunting economic challenges – particularly when it comes to ensuring that our children are digitally literate and have access to empowering 21st Century communications tools. That's why I want to urge you to avoid imposing cumbersome network neutrality rules that could easily dissuade the investment necessary to fund the impressive FCC blueprint.

If broadband is to serve as the foundation for long-term economic growth and enduring job creation on Tribal lands, it is imperative that the proposed regulations not deter the kind of private investments that have been both essential and key to many of our successful Tribal ventures. Without such resources I fear that Tribal governments will never be able to afford the estimated \$350 billion cost associated with your worthy national goals, and communities like ours will continue to languish.

As you know, 30 percent of Native American households remain without telephone service. If we are to have access to next-generation broadband and reap the rewards of e-care and e-learning, we implore you to resist regulating the Internet with additional network neutrality guidelines that will, in all likelihood, adversely impact our communities. Thank you for your consideration of my concerns; I look forward to working with you to improve the lives and futures of all Americans.

Sincerely,